

(b) Owing to extensive reservation of forest lands, the available extent of grazing lands has become very small. The cattle of some villages in the open country have at present no shelter in the rainy season and several of them are lost by exposure to wind and rain. The superabundance of dry grass in State forests in summer is one of the causes for forest fires resulting in the loss of valuable species of forest growth. The old rate of grazing fees of 1 anna may be revived as it is sure to bring enhanced revenue under this head.

Reply of Government.—Orders have been passed reducing the rate to 2 annas per cart-load of fuel (*vide* Government Order No. R. 1728-9—Ft. 188-12-4, dated 21st August 1913).

If any particular instances of hardship are brought to notice, they will be given due consideration.

SUBJECT No. 318.

A full-time Vice-President for the Shimoga municipality.

- (1) Mr. G. Chandappa, Shimoga municipality.
(2) Mr. P. Venkappayya, Shimoga municipality.

Summary of discussion.—(1) The sanitary condition of Shimoga town is anything but satisfactory. Vacant sites full of rank vegetation and pools of stagnant water abound in the town, and the refuse of the town is allowed to collect in such places. The streets in some places are very miry and malodorous with cattle droppings. The storm water is not properly drained off, and this adds to the unhealthiness of the town. Plague and cholera carry away many victims every year. It seems therefore necessary to have a full-time Vice-President to look after the conservancy and drainage of the town. The Treasury Assistant Commissioner who is the *Ex-officio* Vice-President scarcely finds time in the midst of his Treasury and Magisterial duties and the work of the Deputy Commissioner's office to devote proper attention to the requirements of the town. It is therefore prayed that a full-time Vice-President may be appointed for this town as in the cities of Bangalore and Mysore.

(2) A full-time Vice-President with magisterial powers may be appointed for the town of Shimoga. Half of his salary may be met from Municipal Funds and the other half from State Funds.

Reply of Government.—Under consideration.

SUBJECT No. 319.

Improvement of the Shimoga town.

- (1) Mr. C. Subba Rao, Shimoga District Board.
(2) Mr. S. R. Balakrishna Rao, Shimoga municipality.
(3) Messrs. P. Venkappayya, Shimoga municipality and K. Shankarnarayana Rao, Nagar Sabha.

Summary of discussion.—(1) The town needs improvement as regards water-supply, drainage, etc., and it is prayed that early action may be taken in these matters.

(2) The scheme for the drainage of the town was said to be under investigation last year. It appears that the project is ready and that funds are also available. Information is requested as to when the work will be